

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00
INR-07 NSAE-00 H-01 AID-05 IGA-02 EURE-00 SSO-00
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O R 171323Z MAY 77
FM AMEMBASSY LONDON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3965
INFO SECDEF WASHDC
USCINCEUR
CSA WASHDC
CNO
CSAF WASHDC
CMC WASHDC
AMEMBASSY OSLO
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

C O N F I D E N T I A L LONDON 08104

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MASS, UK
SUBJECT: ORGANIZATION FOR SECURITY ASSISTANCE IN BRITAIN

REFS: (A) STATE 87355 (B) OSLO 2215 (NOTAL)

1. THERE HAS BEEN A PROLIFERATION OF MESSAGES RECENTLY BETWEEN DATT/LONDON AND CINCEUR CONCERNING MODIFICATIONS TO THE STRUCTURE OF THE SUBJECT ORGANIZATION. MOST OF THESE MESSAGES PASSED ON AN INFO BASIS TO STATE AND DEFENSE.
2. IT IS MY OPINION THAT LONDON CURRENTLY HAS THE
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CORRECT STRUCTURE AND ORGANIZATION TO EFFECTIVELY MANAGE FMS MATTERS, AND WOULD THEREFORE STRONGLY ENDORSE CONSIDERATION TO PLACING US ON THE LIST OF EXEMPTED COUNTRIES (PARAGRAPH 5, REFTEL A). THE DATT HAS PROVIDED STRONG DIRECTION TO THE FMS MISSION SINCE 1968; AS AN EXAMPLE, HE CONSOLIDATED SECURITY ASSISTANCE (SA) OPERATIONS IN A SEPARATE OFFICE, RATHER THAN HAVING EACH

ATTACHE MONITOR HIS OWN SERVICE'S FMS PROGRAMS.

3. AS YOU ARE AWARE, OUR SA OFFICE CURRENTLY IS STAFFED BY TWO ASSISTANT DEFENSE ATTACHES (AN AIR FORCE LTC AND AND ARMY LTC) AND A DAC ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT, WHO IS ASSIGNED TO USEUCOM AND ATTACHED TO THE DAO. THESE THREE INDIVIDUALS CONDUCT THE DAY-TO-DAY BUSINESS OF THE PROGRAM, WITH FUNDING FROM SHARED ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT AGREEMENTS. THE DAO PROVIDES MAIL, MESSAGE HANDLING, AND SIMILAR SUPPORT FUNCTIONS, AND THE THREE SA PERSONNEL ARE INCLUDED IN THE DAO DUTY ROSTERS AND PROCESS ALL INDUSTRIAL SECURITY CLEARANCES AND COORDINATE ALL VISIT REQUESTS FOR THE DAO WITH THE MOD. IN SUM, THE INTEGRATION OF THE SA OFFICE PERSONNEL INTO THE DAO IS MUTUALLY-BENEFICIAL AND LOGICAL.

4. IN THE MANY COUNTRIES WHERE US MAAGS EXISTED, IT COULD PROVE DIFFICULT FOR THE DATT TO ASSIMILATE RESIDUAL SA FUNCTIONS BECAUSE OF THE FREE ACCESS ENJOYED BY MAAG PERSONNEL WITH HOST MILITARY OFFICIALS COMPARED TO THE TRADITIONAL RESTRICTIONS PLACED UPON MILITARY ATTACHES. AN ODC WOULD APPEAR TO BE QUITE APPROPRIATE IN SUCH SITUATIONS, BUT IN THE MODERN INDUSTRIALIZED NATIONS OF WESTERN EUROPE, IT MAKES MORE SENSE FROM BOTH A MANAGEMENT AND OPERATIONAL VIEWPOINT TO ALLOW THE DAO AND SA STAFF TO REMAIN AN INTEGRATED MILITARY AFFAIRS OFFICE, PERFORMING BOTH THE TRADITIONAL DAO AND RESIDUAL MAAG FUNCTIONS.

5. WITHOUT THE BENEFIT OF THE RATIONALE BEHIND NSDM 342 RECOMMENDATION FOR A UK ODC COMPOSED OF THREE MILITARY AND TWO CIVILIANS (ONE LOCAL AND ONE AMERICAN), IT IS CONFIDENTIAL

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DIFFICULT TO JUSTIFY INCREASING OUR SA STAFF. I FULLY CONCUR WITH THE REQUEST MADE REFTEL B, FOR I BELIEVE THAT IT WOULD YIELD A "BIGGER BANG FOR THE BUCK", BOTH IN TERMS OF FUNDING AND OPERATIONAL EFFECTIVENESS BOTH HERE AND IN OTHER WESTERN EUROPEAN POSTS.

6. FOR THE ABOVE REASONS, I URGE CONSIDERATION OF CONGRESSIONAL AUTHORIZATION WHICH WOULD PERMIT THE DAO IN LONDON TO DIRECT SECURITY ASSISTANCE FUNCTIONS HERE. SUCH A MOVE WOULD, IN OUR VIEW, MINIMIZE STAFF NEEDS, AFFORD A GREATER DEGREE OF COORDINATION AND CONTINUITY, AND BE RESPONSIVE TO THE PRESIDENT'S AND CONGRESS' DESIRE TO REDUCE THE LEVEL OF SPENDING TO THE MAXIMUM LEVEL CONSISTENT WITH OPERATIONAL NEEDS.

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